

CLAIMS 1-22 (CANCELLED)

23. A method for performing a compound ablation in the body of a patient, comprising:

- affixing an alignment device relative to targeted tissue;
- guiding an ablation probe within a first aperture in the alignment device to place the ablation probe adjacent the targeted tissue in a first region;
- operating the ablation probe to create a first lesion in the first region;
- guiding the ablation probe within a second different aperture in the alignment device to place the ablation probe adjacent the targeted tissue in a second region; and
- operating the ablation probe again to create a second lesion in the second region.

24. The method of claim 23, further comprising completely removing the ablation probe from the first aperture prior to guiding the first ablation probe within the second aperture.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein alternate guiding and operating of the ablation probe is performed for a plurality of regions until the entire target tissue is ablated.

26. The method of claim 23, wherein the ablation probe is guided within the first and second apertures in parallel directions.

27. The method of claim 23, wherein the ablation probe is guided within the first and second apertures in non-parallel directions.

28. The method of claim 23, wherein the alignment device comprises a boss or a recess associated within the first aperture, the method further comprising modifying a distance that the ablation probe is guided within the first aperture by abutting a portion of the ablation probe against the boss or recess.

29. The method of claim 23, wherein the ablation probe is operated by generating RF energy to create the first and second lesions.

30. The method of claim 23, wherein the ablation probe is placed in contact with the first and second regions of the target tissue.

31. The method of claim 23, wherein the ablation probe is embedded with the first and second regions of the target tissue.

32. The method of claim 23, wherein the target tissue is inside the body of the patient.

33. The method of claim 23, wherein the ablation probe is percutaneously guided within the first and second apertures into the body of the patient.

34. The method of claim 23, wherein the target tissue is a tumor.

35. A method for performing a compound ablation in the body of a patient, comprising:

affixing an alignment device relative to targeted tissue;

guiding a plurality of ablation probes within a respective plurality of apertures in the alignment device to place the ablation probes adjacent the targeted tissue in a plurality of regions;

operating the ablation probes to create a plurality of lesions in the plurality of regions.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the plurality of ablation probes are operated by transmitting RF energy between at least two of the ablation probes.

37. The method of claim 35, wherein the entire target tissue is ablated.

38. The method of claim 35, wherein the ablation probes are guided within the plurality of apertures in parallel directions.

39. The method of claim 35, wherein the ablation probes are guided within the plurality of apertures in non-parallel directions.

40. The method of claim 35, wherein the alignment device comprises one or more bosses or recesses associated within one or more of the plurality of apertures, the method further comprising modifying a distance that one or more of the ablation probes are guided

Application/Control Number: 10/606,250

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within the one or more plurality of apertures by abutting a portion of the one or more ablation probes against the one or more bosses or recesses.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein the one or more bosses comprises a plurality of bosses.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein the bosses have differing lengths.

43. The method of claim 40, wherein one or more apertures is associated with one or more inserts, wherein one or more inserts are removably mounted.

44. The method of claim 35, wherein the ablation probes are operated by generating RF energy to create the plurality of lesions.

45. The method of claim 35, wherein the ablation probes are placed in contact with the plurality of regions of the target tissue.

46. The method of claim 35, wherein the ablation probes are embedded with the plurality of regions of the target tissue.

47. The method of claim 35, wherein the target tissue is inside the body of the patient.

48. The method of claim 47, wherein the ablation probes are percutaneously guided within the plurality of apertures into the body of the patient.

49. The method of claim 35, wherein the target tissue is a tumor.

CLAIMS 50-69 (CANCELLED)